

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Reissue Application of:

Tomowaki TAKAHASHI

U.S. Serial No.: 09/659,375

Filed: September 8, 2000



Group Art Unit:

Examiner:

(Reissue Application for U.S. Patent No. 5,805,334 issued September 8, 1998)

For: CATADIOPTIC PROJECTION SYSTEMS

REISSUE APPLICATION DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.175

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

I, Tomowaki TAKAHASHI, declare that:

1. My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.
2. I believe I am the original, first inventor of the subject matter which is described and claimed in U.S. Letters Patent No. 5,805,334 ("the '334 patent") granted on September 8, 1998, and for which invention I solicit a reissue patent on the invention entitled CATADIOPTIC PROJECTION SYSTEMS, the specification of which is attached hereto.
3. I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims as amended in the attached reissue application.

4. I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56.

5. I hereby claim priority benefit under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119(a)-(d), of Japanese patent application no. 8-149903, filed May 20, 1996.

6. I believe the original '334 patent to be wholly or partly inoperative or invalid by reason of claiming more or less than I had the right to claim in the patent.

7. With respect to broadening the claims, one error being relied upon as the basis for the reissue is that issued claims 1 and 10 are unduly narrow in reciting a catadioptric projection system comprising a first imaging system comprising single-pass and double-pass lens groups, with the specific path of the light traveling through the first imaging system specified. Accordingly, claim 27 has been drafted without these unduly narrow limitations to recite "a catadioptric imaging optical sub-system comprising an optical group to form an image of the pattern, the optical group comprising a concave mirror with a first optical axis" to remove the unnecessary groupings.

8. All errors, including those listed above, which are being corrected up to the time of filing of this reissue declaration arose without any deceptive intention on the part of the applicant (37 CFR §1.175(a)(2)).

9. I hereby appoint the attorneys and/or agents of Staas & Halsey LLP under USPTO Customer No. 21,171 to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Please send all correspondence related to the above-identified application to the following address:

Staas & Halsey LLP
700 Eleventh Street, N.W.
Suite 500
Washington, D.C. 20001



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

10. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true, that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment or both under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of first or sole inventor Tomowaki TAKAHASHI

Inventor's Signature Tomowaki Takahashi Date Nov. 1, 2000

Country of Citizenship Japan

Residence Yokohama-shi, Kanagawa-ken, JAPAN

Post Office Address c/o Nikon Corporation, Fuji Bldg., 2-3, Marunouchi 3-chome,
Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8331 Japan

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For: CATADIOPTIC PROJECTION SYSTEMS

**CONSENT OF ASSIGNEE TO FILING OF REISSUE APPLICATION
AND OFFER TO SURRENDER ORIGINAL PATENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Petitioner, Tsuruta Tadao, represents that I am a Vice President of the Assignee identified below owning the entire interest in the above-identified patent and am authorized by the Assignee to assent to the filing of the subject application for reissue of the subject U.S. Letters Patent 5,805,344 and to sign on behalf of the Assignee.

CONSENT OF ASSIGNEE AND STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §3.73(b)

Nikon Corporation, presently the assignee of the entire interest including all rights in the above-identified application, having a principal place of business at Fuji Bldg., 2-3, Marunouchi 3-chome, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8331 Japan, hereby consents to reissue of U.S. Letters Patent No. 5,805,334. The Assignment to Nikon Corporation was recorded at Reel 8566, Frame 0150, for application Serial No. 08/858,560 filed May 19, 1997. The evidentiary documents have been reviewed and it is certified that to the best of the assignee's knowledge and belief, title is in the assignee and the undersigned has the authority to act on the behalf of the assignee, Nikon Corporation.

OFFER TO SURRENDER

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.178, Nikon Corporation hereby offers to surrender original U.S. Letters Patent 5,805,334.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. §1001, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Date: Oct. 26, 2000

Tadao Tsuruta

By: ~~Tadao~~ TSURUTA
Title: ~~Executive Vice. President~~
NIKON CORPORATION